

BUY WATER PLANTS IS HALL'S ADVICE

Council Leader Asserts Oak Lane Should Have Relief From High Costs

BUT DIFFERS WITH MAYOR

Purchase of private water companies which supply residents within the city limits is advocated by Councilman Hall as a means of ending the controversy over water rates in Oak Lane, and also to forestall similar situations in the future.

Mr. Hall made the suggestion while commenting on the situation in Oak Lane, where there is general indignation on account of the exorbitant rates. "It's an outrage," he said. "Some residents who live within city limits are required to pay 25 per cent more for their water than the great bulk of citizens. I believe the city should deliver every gallon of water to every section; but I will not be stampeded to purchase one company at the expense of residents of other sections of the city."

Last March Mayor Moore sent an ordinance to Council providing for the purchase of the Holmesburg, Diston and Philadelphia and Bristol Water Companies, but did not include the Springfield Water Company, which serves Oak Lane. Omission of the Springfield concern is believed to have actuated the remark of Mr. Hall to the effect that he would not be stampeded into approving purchase of only the concerns named by the Mayor.

After urging purchase of the companies named, the message sent by the Mayor pointed out among other things: "The subject matter of this ordinance has been carefully investigated by the Department of Public Works and the Bureau of Water, and the conclusions arrived at is that it is essential that the water works be acquired by the city at the earliest practical date in order to secure a reasonable and adequate water service for the residents of the districts embraced within the zone covered by the water companies' rights."

"It is advisable also for the proper development of the city works throughout the growing northwest territory that the city have a free field for expansion without the restrictions incidental to a competitor occupying a large and important part of the area. The longer the acquisition of the Holmesburg works is postponed, the more strongly will the private company become entrenched."

"Groups of responsible citizens in the rapidly developing district affected have recently called to the attention of the Mayor the menace from fire due to a lack of water supply owing to the limited capacity of the private company, and certain large industrial users ready to locate have been deterred for this, and the other reason of lack of sufficient water supply for manufacturing purposes, from setting up their plants in the vicinity. This, of course, presents a situation that should be remedied as speedily as possible. The problem, therefore, of establishing a price at which the existing works can be taken over immediately in order that the city may set up sufficient supply to meet the needs of a growing territory."

The measure was referred to the City Solicitor.

SAN CARLO OPERA COMPANY PRESENTS "TOSCA" FINELY

Beautiful Performance of Puccini's Great Work at the Metropolitan

THE CAST

Flora Tosca.....Anna Fitziu
Baron Scarpia.....Mario Valle
Mario Cavaradossi.....Gustav Salazar
Angelotti.....Pietro de Biasi
A. Smeraldi.....Suzanne Corvi
Rosetta.....Francesca Carel
Conductor.....Carlo Peroni

The San Carlo Opera Company last evening presented Puccini's "Tosca" in splendid style at the Metropolitan Opera House, to a good-sized audience. While in some respects, notably in that of general finish the performance was not so excellent as that of "Rigoletto" on Tuesday evening, still there was plenty of spirit in the rendition, especially in the action during the intense scenes in the second and third acts. The orchestra performed the exceedingly difficult and effective music better than they did at either of the previous performances, and Mr. Peroni's reading of the score was very fine, being full of temperament as demanded by the character of the vocal and orchestral music.

but yet at all times discreet as to tonal volume. It is rarely in the impassioned music of Puccini that the voices are not overwhelmed at times, but this was never the case last evening.

Anna Fitziu made a splendid Tosca, singing the role well and acting even better, especially in the emotional scenes of which the opera is full. Mr. Salazar made a better impression than in "Aida," although he again created the impression of saving his voice for the big arias at the expense of the smaller sections, however important they might be to the development of the opera. He did his best work in the "Recondita Armonia" in the first act and "E Lucevan le Stelle" in the closing one.

Mr. Valle was good as Scarpia, even though he did not have that cold malignancy which characterized the interpretation of perhaps the greatest of all Scarpia's. His voice was excellent, notably in the angry soliloquy at the end of the first act. The minor members of the cast were all adequate and the scenery and settings were the best of the season thus far.

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Conschocken Merchant Gets "Conscience Money" From Philadelphia

A twenty-dollar bill "to make good something you were cheated out of" was received by Harry Tole, a Conschocken grocer, this morning in an unsigned letter mailed from Philadelphia.

"I am sending this money to you to make good something you were cheated out of," the letter said, "not by me, but by a member of my family. The Lord knows who they are. I am doing this because I believe God wanted me to do it."

Tole has no idea of the identity of the sender or when and how the cheating was done.

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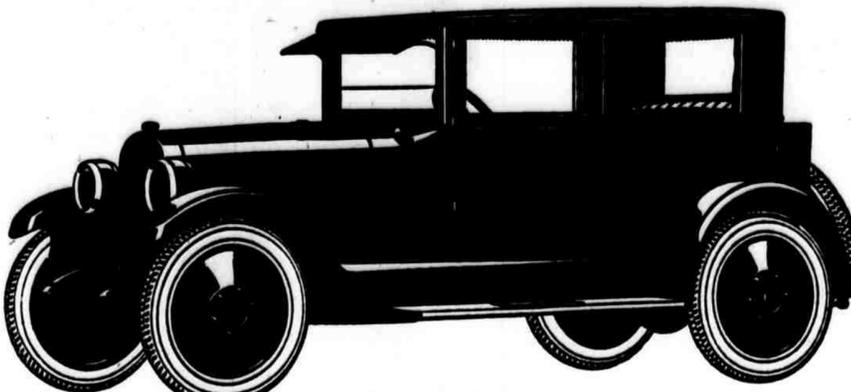
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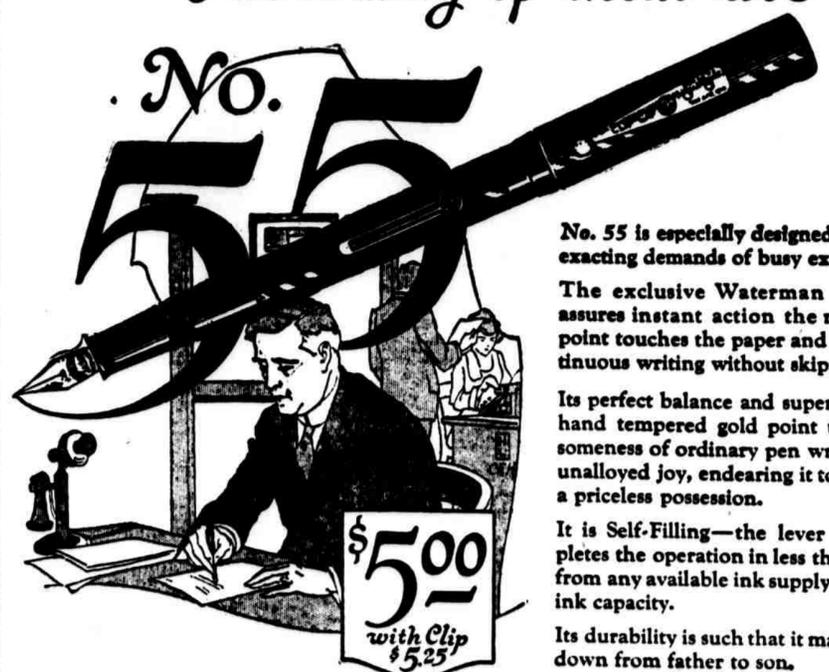
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